



# President's Message



There (67th IFC, 15th AFC and IFEX 2019) would be numerous opportunities to learn about new market trends, technologies, best practices, interacting with global leaders....

Dear Fellow Foundrymen and Friends,

One of the major focus areas of IIF is Policy Advocacy, which is liaising with the policy makers (read Govt of India, State Govts., local authorities and various autonomous and statutory bodies), generating awareness about the issues and requirements of the Foundry industry and enabling changes for the benefit of the Foundry fraternity.

Policy Advocacy Committee of IIF along with Foundry Informatics Centre at New Delhi aided and advised by IIF members and Office Bearers (including Past Presidents) at different levels and locations, regularly interacts with various Ministries, Depts and Associations like MSME, DIPP, DGFT, Ministries of Commerce & Industry, Power and HRD, CPCB, ACMA, SIAM, CII, EEPC etc and propagate the issues faced by the metalcasting industry.

As a part of its policy intervention for betterment of the Foundry sector, IIF submits every year, a detailed pre-Budget memorandum to the concerned ministries of Govt of India for consideration, on various issues concerning the Foundry industry, after collecting feedback from members.

IIF's intervention had led to re-categorisation of the

industry from 'red to orange' and also policy makers agreeing to review of certification of individual foundries on case to case basis.

Upon the advent of GST, IIF had submitted a memorandum to the Govt regarding impact of GST on Foundry industry, after taking feedback from industry leaders and consultants with relevant proposals for the benefit of foundries, some of which was subsequently accepted.

IIF's proposal for use of Foundry waste sand for road construction was accepted Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) and National Rural Road Development Agency (NRRDA).

In recognition of IIF's efforts and proposals and realizing the importance of Foundry sector for engineering, manufacturing & exports, DIPP, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has constituted a Foundry Development Council headed by Secretary DIPP, which is spearheaded by IIF. FDC has representatives from various ministries and Govt Departments, leading institutes such as IIT, NIFFT, related stakeholder industry associations like SIAM, CII and others on its board, apart from IIF.

The Council, since its inception, has undertaken

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various initiatives to promote sustainable growth and made several enabling recommendations in support of the Foundry sector which were implemented by Govt as outcome. Some of these are:

- ▶ The import duty on silica sand (25051011, 25051012 and 25051019) was reduced from 5% to 2.5% as proposed by IIF. Import duty on brass scrap (74020022) has been reduced from 5% to 2.5%. SAD on scrap was reduced to 2%.
- ▶ In order to support the domestic Foundry industry, on IIF's recommendations, the import duty on castings was increased from 7.5% to 10%.
- ▶ IIF supported the representation of casting producers for WTG with the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy and also with Ministry of Commerce & Industry for imposition of Anti-subsidy (CVD) on these items, giving substantial relief to domestic foundries producing these cast items.
- ▶ Export Promotion: MEIS on castings was enhanced to 3% and the enhanced MEIS on 34 categories of castings was also extended to category C countries.
- ▶ Interest Subvention scheme was reintroduced as per recommendations of IIF in FDC as "Interest Equalization Scheme"

IIF has also made the following Policy Advocacy recommendations for Ease of Doing Business:

- ▶ IIF Proposed that while importing Silica Sand from Australia & Jordan, certification from Atomic Energy Department may be exempted. This was favourably considered by the Govt.
- ▶ IIF had also been pursuing with MoEF and CPCB for simplifying the procedures for sand mining. Now, MoEF and CPCB have allowed small mines (having an area upto 25 hectares) to be approved at district level.

**Foundry Specific Industrial Policy:** Since there is no specific industrial policy for Foundry sector, it was proposed by IIF to DIPP in the last FDC meeting to make a written policy document to act as roadmap for various interventions by all stakeholders and the same was agreed upon by Secretary DIPP. The draft Policy

on Foundry Sector has been submitted by IIF to DIPP for their consideration and further perusal.

**Technology Up-gradation Fund:** As per discussions in FDC, IIF has submitted detailed TUF scheme with corpus of Rs 500 Cr initially to promote investments in Technology which is under discussion and consideration by DIPP.

With Winter finally setting in, it's time for the flagship event of the Indian Foundry Industry, the 67th Indian Foundry Congress & IFEX 2019 to be held concurrently with 15th Asian Foundry Congress at the world class India Expo Centre, Greater Noida, India on January 18-20, 2019. The exhibition would have covered area of over 15,000 sq metres. We are expecting over 1200 registered delegates, 300 exhibitors and 20000 visitors from India & overseas would participate in the Congress and Exhibition. The theme of the event is "**Mission World Market.**"

Highlights of this mega event are Cast India Expo, Cast Source Meet, B2B meetings, Panel Discussions, CEO Meet, Case Studies, Success Stories, in addition to carefully selected Technical Presentations. Post Congress Tours, Works Visits and Special Entertainment Programmes by Bollywood Celebrities for the participants and spouse have been planned by the organisers.

I am extending my invitation, on behalf of the 67th IFC Organising Committee and IIF, to all Foundrymen and stakeholders, to make the best use of this unique platform for interacting with industry & academia, global leaders & experts in R&D, technology & service providers and explore the cooperation in your area of interest.

There would be numerous opportunities to learn about new market trends, technologies, best practices, interacting with global leaders, exploring new business partnerships and showcasing your products & services for business promotion.

See you all there!

**Shashi Kumar Jain**

President 2018-19

The Institute of Indian Foundrymen